

REF ID: A66000

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Frankfurt

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 16 March 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 1 and 10 February 1951, the Artillerie Kaserne in Frankfurt/Oder (O 53/V 63) was still occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The unit was equipped with AA guns. On 2 February about 50 soldiers were drilling while six other soldiers practiced with a 76.2-mm gun. Twelve canvas-covered guns were parked at the northern side of the barracks installation. About 150 unarmed troops were drilling in the barracks yard on 7 February. Four of the 12 guns parked at the northern side of the installation were brought into position, with from 6 to 8 soldiers practicing with each gun.

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2. The Puelow Kaserne quartered about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. Fifty soldiers carrying rifles returned to the billeting area from firing practice on 2 February. A short time later moved into the installation, carrying about 15 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and towing a 57-mm AT gun. On 6 February, about 80 unarmed soldiers were seen drilling while truck left the billeting area, carrying 8 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. About 150 soldiers were engaged in close-order drill at squad level on 9 February. Seven soldiers practiced with a 57-mm AT gun between the stables. Truck entered the installation, occupied by 12 soldiers equipped with rifles.

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3. Only a few soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were seen in the northeastern section of the Eichhorn Kaserne. they belonged to the unit quartered in the southwestern section of the installation. Most of the space in the annex buildings was used by the Kech for storage purposes. The southwestern barracks section quartered about 1,000 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Intensive policing of quarters was done on 3 February, with 800 to 1,000 strawbags spread out in front of them. On 6 February, about 100 soldiers were seen drilling, while others were engaged in a game of soccer. About 100 soldiers who returned to the barracks installation from the gravel pit wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and carried firing equipment. Trucks each

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Document No. 06No Change in Class. ☐☐ DeclassifiedClass. Changed To: TS S ☒

Auth.: HR 7D-2

Date: 01/08/78

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occupied by 5 to 8 soldiers left the billeting area.

4. The Hindenburg Kaserne still quartered about 400 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with tank insignia. Tanks [] and one SP gun left the installation on 1 February, while truck [] was seen entering it. One model BA-64 armored scout car entered the billeting area on 6 February. 50X1-HUM
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5. The Hofbauer Kaserne quartered about 100 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Officers of all branches of service were still brought to, or taken from, the barracks installation on trucks []. Repair work was done on 4 or 5 trucks parked in front of the armory. The Hofbauer Kaserne also housed a furniture depot of the Kech. 50X1-HUM
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6. The Horn Kaserne was still occupied by about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 120 soldiers were engaged in drill on 1 February. Truck [] occupied by about 15 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, and JS tank [] entered the installation. On 6 February, about 50 soldiers were engaged in rifle drill, while about 20 other soldiers practiced at the close-combat range. JSU-152's [] and JS tanks [] entered the billeting area. On 10 February JS tank [] was seen entering the installation. [] 50X1-HUM
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7. The Ziethen Kaserne still quartered about 700 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank or artillery insignia. An officer instructed about 40 soldiers on a 76.2-mm gun parked opposite the barracks driveway on 1 February. Six large canvas-covered tanks stood in front of the repair shop on 5 February. About 40 soldiers were engaged in rifle drill. On 9 February, crews of about 8 men each practiced with three 37-mm and three 20-mm AA guns in the barracks yard. About 20 soldiers practiced with a 76.2-mm gun in the afternoon of the same day. Two JS tanks [] entered the billeting area []. Truck [] parked in the billeting area. 50X1-HUM
8. No changes were observed at the Soviet kommandatura in Frankfurt/Oder. 50X1-HUM
9. On 3 February the construction of two gun emplacements was observed at the railroad bridge crossing the Oder River at Frankfurt/Oder. Trucks [] each occupied by 7 to 9 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, hauled material to the site. Guns were not seen, however. * 50X1-HUM
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10. The German language lessons for Soviet officers in the Artillerie Kaserne which began on 22 December 1950 were conducted regularly. [] 50X1-HUM
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[] Soviet units in Frankfurt/Oder included one infantry battalion, a signal battalion, a tank regiment, Arty Regt [] and a medical unit of undetermined strength. [] mortar units at the post were subordinate to the infantry battalion. The signal battalion, though an independent unit, detached individual platoons to other units for field exercises. 50X1-HUM
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11. Night exercises were recently conducted in the area of the Mohnen estate and the Rosengarten railroad station. The exercises stressed the attack on, and penetration into, enemy positions. Infantry troops advanced frontally in waves rather than in staggered formation. They were closely followed by mortar teams and signal troops. Tanks participated in some of the practice attacks. Troops frequently attacked with gas masks on. [] 50X1-HUM
[] Many tanks were seen in Frankfurt/Oder at night.

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12. The former Lehrerbildungsanstalt building (college for teachers) housed an officers' club, lecture halls, and a motion picture theater. Colonel Murevyev (fnu) was identified as the club officer.

13. Nine AA guns were observed in the yard of the Artillerie Kaserne on 7 February. Troops practiced with three of them. They had a caliber of about 80 mm. *

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